

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00966 061226Z

14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAM-01 ACDA-10 IO-11 /096 W

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R 061135Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1437

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 0966

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ET, SO, SU

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS
CONFERENCE

REF: KHARTOUM 0943

1. ETHIOPIAN FONMIN KIFLE WODAJO, WHO DEPARTED KHARTOUM
APRIL 6 AFTER BRIEF VISIT, HELD PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 5.

2. FONMIN SAID HE HAD BEEN DIRECTED TO ASSURE GOS THAT
ETHIOPIA HAD NO AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS TOWARD SUDAN AND
THAT RECENT INCIDENTS WERE INADVERTENT. HE SAID THAT
BORDER PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE WOULD BE DEALT WITH BY THE
JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

3. AS FORMULATED BY SUDAN NEWS AGENCY, WODAJO SAID THAT
PMAC "TRUSTS AND ENCOURAGES PRESIDENT NIMEIRI'S EFFORT
TOWARD REACHING PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO ERITREAN QUESTION".
HEADLINES IN ARABIC PRESS READ, "ETHIOPIA SUPPORTS
NIMEIRI'S INITIATIVE".

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4. FONMIN TOLD PRESS THAT ETHIOPIA HAS WITHDRAWN CLAIMS ON DJIBOUTI, ADDING THAT EPMG HAS ASKED SOMALIA TO DO THE SAME. WODAJI SAID THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD BEEN REASSURED OF "SOMALIA'S DESIRE TO HAVE DJIBOUTI GAIN COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE". FINALLY, FONMIN SAID THAT EPMG HAD SUBMITTED PROPOSAL TO OAU AIMED AT GUARANTEEING INDEPENDENCE OF DJIBOUTI.

5. COMMENT: JUDGING FROM COMMENTS MADE TO US BY KNOWLEDGEABLE GOS OFFICIAL, GESTURE AND SUBSTANCE OF WODAJI'S VISIT HAVE OVERCOME TESTINESS CREATED BY BORDER INCIDENTS AND PLACED GOS-EPMG RELATIONS BACK ON FRIENDLY BASIS. BREWER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KHARTO00966
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760129-0233
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760494/aaaadbzf.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KHARTOUM 943
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <26 JAN 2005 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE
TAGS: PFOR, ET, SO, SU, (KIFLE WODAJJO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006